

Application No.: 09/146,835  
Amendment Dated: July 8, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of: April 8, 2004

MAT-6280US

**Remarks/Arguments:**

In view of the amendments and following remarks, further consideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

It is noted that the previously pending claims have been cancelled without prejudice in favor of newly added claims 65-85. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 65-85 are currently pending in this application.

The Applicants would like to thank Primary Examiner Mark Wallerson for conducting a personal interview with the Applicants on July 6, 2004, at the USPTO. During the personal interview, the Applicants set forth arguments distinguishing the present invention, as particularly recited in each of newly added independent claims 65, 70, and 74, over the prior art references. It is noted that, during the personal interview, the Examiner indicated that the arguments presented by the Applicants appeared to be persuasive for distinguishing the new independent claims over the prior art references and that the Examiner would formally consider the new claims upon receipt of this response to the Office Action. Provided next is a Substance of the Interview which includes the arguments the Applicants presented for distinguishing the newly claimed invention over the prior art references.

Initially, it is noted that the Examiner has rejected each of previously pending independent claims 52, 54, and 55 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohmori (U.S. Patent No. 5,790,193) in view of Parulski et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,900,909).

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MAT-6280US

Without intending to acquiesce to the Examiner's aforementioned prior art rejection and in order to expedite allowance of this application, the Applicants have cancelled the previously pending claims without prejudice in favor of newly added claims 65-85 which have been drafted to more clearly distinguish the present invention over the prior art references.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention, at least as claimed in each of newly added independent claims 65, 70, and 74, clearly patentably distinguishes over the prior art references for at least the following reasons which were discussed during the aforementioned personal interview conducted on July 6, 2004.

According to the present invention, as recited in each of independent claims 65 and 70 of the present application, the digital camera comprises a key adapted to be manipulated by a user of the digital camera and operable to rotate an angle of the image displayed on a display unit in response to the user manipulation, and a control information processor operable to obtain the angle of rotation and, according to the obtained angle of rotation, signal/store to a memory how the image of the picture information stored in the memory and displayed on the display unit is to be rotated.

Moreover, according to the present invention, as recited in independent claim 74 of the present application, the digital camera comprises a rotation device operable to rotate a display angle of the picture information, a display unit operable to display a rotated image of the picture information according to the rotated

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MAT-6280US

display angle, and a control information processor operable to obtain the rotation display angle and, according to the rotated display angle, store in the memory how an image of the picture information is to be rotated.

It is submitted that the prior art references, taken either alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the aforementioned features of the present application as particularly recited in each of independent claims 65, 70, and 74.

Regarding the Ohmori reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,790, 193), it is noted that the Examiner has acknowledged, in paragraph 5 of the Office Action, that this reference does not disclose a control information processor for signaling to the memory how the image data is to be rotated.

Regarding the Parulski et al. reference, it is noted that this reference discloses a camera 10, which does not contain a display (see Figure 2), for capturing image data and, if correction of orientation of the image data is required, the orientation of the image data is first corrected and is then stored on a memory card 26 which can be removed from the camera 10 and inserted into a computer system 26 to display the correct orientation for proper viewing of the image data on a cathode ray tube display 34 of the computer system 28 which is independent and separate from the camera 10 [(see Figures 2, 3, and 5, and column 3 (lines 49-53), and column 5 (lines 40-60)].

Thus, based on the foregoing, the Applicants submit that Ohmori and Parulski et al. references as well as the remaining references of record in this application, taken either alone or in combination, clearly fail to disclose or suggest

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a digital camera which comprises a key adapted to be manipulated by a user of the digital camera and operable to rotate an angle of the image displayed on a display unit in response to the user manipulation, and a control information processor operable to obtain the angle of rotation and, according to the obtained angle of rotation, signal/store to a memory how the image of the picture information stored in the memory and displayed on the display unit is to be rotated, as recited in independent claims 65 and 70 of the present application.

Also, the Applicants submit that Ohmori and Parulski et al. references as well as the remaining references of record in this application, taken either alone or in combination, clearly fail to disclose or suggest a digital camera which comprises a rotation device operable to rotate a display angle of the picture information, a display unit operable to display a rotated image of the picture information according to the rotated display angle, and a control information processor operable to obtain the rotation display angle and, according to the rotated display angle, store in the memory how an image of the picture information is to be rotated, as recited in independent claim 74 of the present application.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present invention as claimed in each of independent claims 65, 70, and 74, as well as claims 66-69, 71-73, and 75-85 dependent thereon, is clearly allowable and the Examiner is kindly requested to promptly pass this case to issuance.

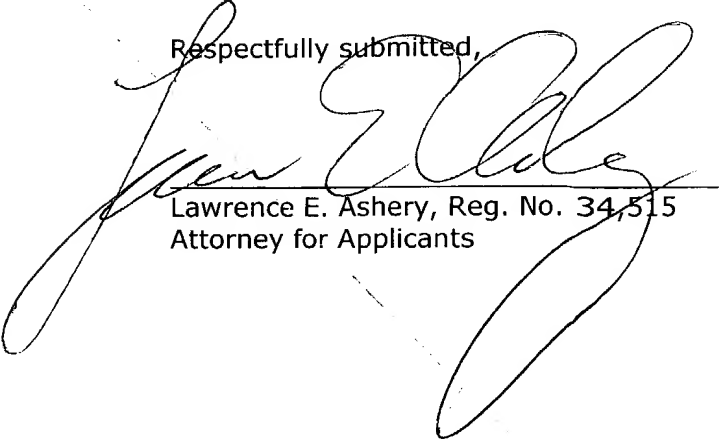
In the event, however, that the Examiner has any comments or suggestion of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the

Application No.: 09/146,835  
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Reply to Office Action of: April 8, 2004

MAT-6280US

Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned to expedite allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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LEA/fp

Dated: July 8, 2004

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

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July 8, 2004

  
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